

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim Amendments and Listing:

1. – 69. (Cancelled)

70. (Previously Presented) A networked health-monitoring system, comprising:

- (i) a plurality of remote patient sites, each site including
 - at least one display;
 - a data management unit configured to facilitate collection of patient health-related data;
 - at least one memory; and
 - stored program instructions for generating health-monitoring related information on the display;
- (ii) at least one central server connectable for communication with the data management unit at each patient site; and
- (iii) at least one health care professional computer remotely located from and configured for signal communication with the central server wherein the system is configured to
 - allow a health care professional to cause information to be transmitted to at least one patient and
 - display to that patient at least one message at least some of the information caused to be transmitted by the healthcare professional.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the message is selected from the set consisting of an educational message, a motivational message, and instructions.

72. – 75. (Cancelled)

76. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 71, wherein the stored program instructions further enable the display of pictorial health related information.

77. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, further comprising at least one monitoring device configured to

- a. monitor at least one patient health condition; and
- b. capture health-related data including data related to the monitored condition.

78. – 109. (Cancelled)

110. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the system is configured to transmit the message to a specific patient.

111. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 110, wherein the system enables the patient to choose when to receive the message.

112. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the data management unit is physically separate from the display.

113. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the display is in a handheld device.

114. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 76, wherein the system is capable of displaying pictorial health related information.

115. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 76, wherein the memory is a program cartridge.

116. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the system generates at least one report based on the patient health-related data collected at the remote patient sites.

117. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 116, wherein the report is standardized and the system is configured to allow a health care professional to select which of a plurality of standardized reports is generated.

118. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 116, wherein the system is configured to cause the presentation of at least one report on the display at a remote patient site.

119. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 116, wherein the healthcare professional computer receives the report after an associated healthcare professional is identified as an authorized user by an authorization code.

120. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the system is configured to allow the patient to control the display of information using at least one menu.

121. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 120, wherein the menu allows the patient to select at least one operational mode from the set consisting of:

- (i) a display mode for displaying relevant information;
- (ii) an input mode for providing information; and
- (iii) a communications mode for establishing a link with the central server.

122. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 120, wherein the menu allows a patient to select a monitoring mode in which a monitoring device is used to monitor at least one patient health condition at least at one remote patient site; and to communicate data related to the monitored condition to the central server.

123. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 70, wherein the ~~wherein the~~ collected patient health-related data includes user experienced symptoms.

124. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 70, wherein the collected patient health-related data includes food intake information.

125. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 70, wherein the collected patient health – related data includes information that relates to the user's healthcare regimen.

126. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 70, wherein the system is configured to enable programs to be provided from the server for storage in a memory and execution at a remote patient site.

127. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

at a plurality of remote patient sites,

- facilitating collection of patient health-related data using a data management unit,
- using program instructions stored in at least one memory to generate health-monitoring related information on at least one display, and
- collecting the patient-health related data;

connecting at least one central server for communication with the data management unit at the patient site;

connecting a remotely located professional computer in signal communication with the central server;

allowing a healthcare professional to cause information to be transmitted to at least one patient site; and

displaying at that patient site as at least one message at least some of the information caused to be transmitted by the healthcare professional.

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, wherein the message is selected from the set consisting of a health care professional selected message, an educational message, a motivational message, and instructions.

129. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 128, wherein the message is transmitted to a specific patient.

130. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 129, wherein the message is transmitted to the patient when the specific patient chooses.

131. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 127, further comprising:

using a monitoring device to monitor at least one patient health condition at least at one remote patient site; and

communicating patient-related data including data related to the monitored condition to the central server.

132. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 131 ~~herein~~ wherein, the data management unit facilitates collection of health-related data by receiving data related to the monitored condition from at least one of the monitoring devices.

133. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, wherein the memory and the display form a part of at least one of the monitoring devices.

134. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, wherein the display is a handheld device.

135. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 134, wherein the memory is a program cartridge.

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, further comprising displaying pictorial health-monitoring related information.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, further comprising generating at least one report based on the patient health-related data collected at the remote patient sites.

138. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, wherein the report is standardized and a health care professional selects which of a plurality of standardized reports is produced.

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, further comprising displaying the report on a display at at least one remote patient site.

140. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, further comprising displaying at least one of statistical and trend information.

141. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, further comprising receiving the report after transmitting an authorization code to the server that identifies an associated healthcare professional as an authorized user.

142. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, further comprising allowing the patient to control the display of information using at least one menu.

143. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 142, wherein the menu allows a patient to select at least one operational mode from the set consisting of:

- a display mode for displaying relevant information;
- an input mode for providing information; and
- a communications mode for establishing a link with the central server.

144. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 142, wherein the menu allows a patient to select a monitoring mode in which a monitoring device is used to monitor at least one patient health condition at least at one remote patient site; and to communicate data related to the monitored condition to the central server.

145. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, wherein the collected patient health-related data includes user experienced symptoms to the system.

146. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 127, wherein the collected patient health-related data includes food intake information.

147. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 127, wherein the collected patient health-related data includes information that relates to the user's healthcare regimen.

148. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 127, further comprising:
 providing a program from the server to a remote patient site; and
 storing the program in a memory for execution at the remote patient site.

149. (Previously Presented) A networked health-monitoring system configured to collect and process patient health related data, the system comprising:

- (i) a plurality of remote patient sites, each site including:
 - means for displaying information;
 - a data management unit means for facilitating collection of patient health - related data;
 - a memory means; and
 - a stored program means for generating health-monitoring related information on the display;
- (ii) at least one central server means connectable for communication with the data management unit at each patient site; and
- (iii) means for transmitting at least one message for display on at least one display and in which at least one message is a health care professional selected message.

150. (Previously Presented) A networked monitoring system, comprising:

- (i) a plurality of remote user sites, each site including:
 - at least one display,
 - a data management unit configured to facilitate collection of user-related data,
 - a memory, and
 - stored program instructions for generating information on the display;
- (ii) at least one central server connectable for communication with the data management unit at each user site; and
- (iii) at least one computer remotely located from the user sites and remotely located from and configured for signal communication with the central server wherein the system is configured to
 - allow at least one of educational and motivational material to be displayed to at least one user,
 - allow user of the remotely located computer to cause information to be transmitted to that user, and
 - generate at least one report based on the user data collected at the remote user sites.

151. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the report is standardized and the system is configured to allow a user of the remotely located computer to select which of a plurality of standardized reports is produced.

152. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the system is configured to cause the presentation of at least one report to a user at at least one of the remote user sites.

153. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 152, wherein the report includes one of results of a test and information data for a period of time.

154. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the remotely located computer receives the report after an associated user is identified as an authorized user by an authorization code.

155. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the system is configured to allow the transmission of at least one message to at least one user.

156. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 155, wherein the system is configured to transmit the message to a specific user.

157. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 155, wherein the system enables the user to choose when to receive the message.

158. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the display is in a handheld device.

159. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 158, wherein the handheld device is capable of displaying pictorial information.

160. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 158, wherein the memory is a program cartridge.

161. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the system is configured to allow the user to control the display of information using at least one menu.

162. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 161, wherein the menu allows the user to select at least one operational mode from the set consisting of:

- i) a display mode for displaying relevant information;
- ii) an input mode for providing information; and
- iii) a communications mode for establishing a link with the central server.

163. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the system is configured to enable programs to be provided from the server for storage in the memory for execution at a remote user site.

164. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the system further causes the display of instructions to the user.

165. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the stored program instructions further enable the display of a graphic representation based on at least a portion of the user input.

166. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 150, wherein the collected user-related data includes quantitative measurements.

167. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 150, wherein the collected user-related data includes food intake information.

168. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 150, wherein the collected user-related data includes information that relates to the user's healthcare regimen.

169. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 166, wherein the user of the remotely located computer is a healthcare professional.

170. (Previously Presented) A method comprising;
at a plurality of remote patient sites

- facilitating collection of user-related data using a data management unit,
- using program instructions stored in memory to generate monitoring-related information on at least one display, and
- collecting the user-related data;

collecting at least one central server for communication with the data management unit at the patient site;

connecting a professional remotely located computer in signal communication with the central server;

allowing at least one of educational and motivational material to be displayed to at least one user;

allowing a user of the remotely located professional computer to cause information to be transmitted to that user; and

generating at least one report based on the user data collected at the remote user site.

171. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the report is standardized and the method further comprises:

allowing a user of the remotely located professional computer to select which of a plurality of standardized reports is produced.

172. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising:

causing the presentation of at least one report to a user at at least one of the remote user sites.

173. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 172, wherein the report includes at least one of results of a test, statistical information, and trend information.

174. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising:

receiving the report at the remotely located professional computer after an associated user is identified as an authorized user by an authorization code.

175. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising: transmitting the at least one message to at least one user.

176. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 175, wherein the message is transmitted to a specific user.

177. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 175, wherein the user chooses when to receive the message.

178. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the display is in a handheld device.

179. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 178, wherein the handheld device is capable of displaying pictorial information based on the collected user-related data.

180. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the memory is a program cartridge.

181. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising:
allowing the user to control the display of information using at least one menu.

182. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 181, wherein the menu allows the user to select at least one operational mode from the set consisting of [[-]] : a display mode for displaying relevant information; an input mode for providing information; and a communications mode for establishing a link with the central server.

183. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising:
enabling a program to be provided from the server for storage in a memory for execution at the remote user site.

184. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, further comprising:
causing the display of instructions to the user.

185. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the stored program instructions further enable the display of a graphic representation based on at least a portion of the user input.

186. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the collected user-related data includes user experienced symptoms.

187. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 170, wherein the collected user-related data includes food intake information.

188. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 170, wherein the collected user-related data includes information that relates to the user's healthcare regimen.

189. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 170, wherein the user of the remotely located professional computer is a healthcare professional.

190. (New) A healthcare data monitoring and management system, comprising:

- a) one or more physiological monitoring devices, each producing a signal containing data representative of a physical condition;
- b) an electronic data management unit, comprising:
 - one or more interfaces operative to receive healthcare data from a respective one of the monitoring devices, and
 - an interface for transmitting the healthcare data over a telephone or digital network
- c) a data storage and processing clearinghouse, comprising:
 - a processor for receiving the healthcare data from the data management unit,
 - a clearinghouse database for storing the healthcare data, and

an interface enabling the healthcare data to be reviewed remotely over a network;
and

d) a physiological monitoring device operable to collect and transmit healthcare data to the clearinghouse without routing the data through the data management unit.

191. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the healthcare data is transmitted as a signal over a telephone line.

192. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the digital network, the network for remote review, or both comprise the Internet.

193. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the at least one monitoring device is associated with one or more of the following:
blood pressure;
weight measurement; and
diabetes or glucose levels.

194. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the healthcare data is accessed from the clearinghouse using an Internet protocol.

195. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein at least the data management unit is a compact, portable unit adapted for patient self-care.

196. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, further comprising a device for wireless transmission of data from the data management unit to the telephone or digital network.

197. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the healthcare data is wirelessly transmitted from the monitoring device to the data management unit.
198. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 190, wherein the data management unit further comprises a plurality of signal sensors, with an individual signal sensor being associated with each device that may be interconnected with the data management unit.
199. (New) A method of monitoring and managing healthcare data, comprising the steps of:
 receiving healthcare data at an electronic data management unit from one or more physiological monitoring devices;
 transmitting the healthcare data to a data storage and processing clearinghouse over a telephone or digital network;
 formatting the data at the clearinghouse for remote review over a network; and
 transmitting healthcare data to the clearinghouse without routing the data through the data management unit.
200. (New) The method of claim 199, wherein the step of transmitting the healthcare data includes the use of signals over a telephone line.
201. (New) The method of claim 199, wherein the digital network, the network for remote review, or both comprise the Internet.
202. (New) The method of claim 199, wherein the healthcare data is associated with one or more of the following:
 blood pressure;

weight measurement; and
diabetes or glucose levels.

203. (New) The method of claim 199, further comprising the step of storing the healthcare data in a clearinghouse database which is accessed for review.

204. (New) The method of claim 199, wherein the healthcare data that is transmitted to the clearinghouse without routing the data through the data management unit is associated with a heart condition.

205. (New) The method of claim 199, wherein the healthcare data originates from a healthcare professional.

206. (New) A healthcare data monitoring and management system, comprising:

- a) a plurality of physiological monitoring devices, each producing a signal containing data representative of a different physical condition;
- b) a plurality of compact, portable electronic data management units, each adapted for patient self-care, each unit comprising:
 - a plurality of interfaces operative to receive healthcare data from a respective one of the monitoring devices, and
 - an interface for transmitting the healthcare data as a signal over a telephone network
- c) a data storage and processing clearinghouse comprising:
 - a processor for receiving signals from the various data management units,
 - a clearinghouse database for storing the healthcare data received from the data management units,

an interface enabling the healthcare data to be reviewed remotely over a network;
and

- d) one or more physiological monitoring devices operable to collect and transmit healthcare data to the clearinghouse without routing the data through a data management unit.

207. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 206, wherein the signals generated by the data management units are of a format suitable for transmission over a telephone line.

208. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 206, wherein the network for remote review comprises the Internet.

209. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 206, wherein the health monitoring devices are associated with one or more of the following:

blood pressure;
weight measurement; and
diabetes or glucose levels.

210. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 206, wherein the healthcare data are accessed from the clearinghouse using an Internet protocol.

211. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 206, wherein at least the data management unit is a compact, portable unit adapted for patient self-care.

212. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 207, further comprising a device for wireless transmission of data from the data management unit to a telephone line.
213. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 207, wherein the healthcare data is wirelessly transmitted from the monitoring device to the data management unit.
214. (New) The healthcare data monitoring and management system of claim 207, wherein the data management unit further comprises a plurality of signal sensors, with an individual signal sensor being associated with each device that may be interconnected with the data management unit.
215. (New) A medical device for monitoring and managing one or more ambulatory patients on a computer and allowing a caregiver to review the ambulatory patients' wellness parameters to provide treatment in accordance with the wellness parameters, the medical device comprising:
- a processing unit;
 - a computer-readable medium associated with the processing unit;
 - a sensor, operably coupled with the processing unit, the sensor detecting at least one physiological parameter of the patient;
 - an output device, operably coupled with the processing unit, the output device prompting the patient with at least one question;
 - an input device, operably coupled with the processing unit, the input device permitting the patient to respond to the at least one question;
 - a communication device operably coupled to the processing unit;

wherein the computer-readable medium is programmed with a set of instructions that cause the processing unit to cooperate with the communication device to automatically initiate a first communication session at a specified time of day,

wherein during the first communication session at least one question is received from a remote computer;

prompt the patient with the at least one question via the output device;

receive at least one response to the at least one question via the input device; and

transmit the at least one response and the at least one physiological parameter to the remote computer via the communication device.

216. (New) The medical system of claim 215, wherein the computer-readable medium is further programmed with a set of instructions that cause the processing unit to:

receive from the remote computer at least one question to be used for prompting the patient after the first communication session has been terminated; and

transmit to the remote computer at least one response entered by the patient prior to the initiation of the first communication session.

217. (New) The medical system of claim 215, wherein the computer-readable medium is further programmed with a set of instructions that cause the processing unit to:

prompt the patient with the at least one question after the first communication session has been terminated;

measure at least one physiological parameter of the patient;

acquire at least one response to the at least one question; and

initiate a second communication session with the central computer, during which the processing unit transmits to the central computer the at least one physiological parameter and the at least one response.

218. (New) The medical system of claim 217, wherein the second communication session is initiated at the command of the patient.

219. (New) A medical device for monitoring and managing one or more self-care patients on a computer and enabling a health care provider to review the self-care patients' health parameters to provide treatment in accordance with the health parameters, the medical device comprising:

- a processor;
- a computer-readable memory associated with the processor;
- a sensor, operably interconnected with the processor, the sensor taking at least one measurement of a physiological health indicator of the patient;
- an output device, operably interconnected with the processor, the output device prompting the patient with at least one query;
- an input device, operably interconnected with the processor, the input device permitting the patient to respond to the at least one query;
- a communication device operably interconnected to the processor;
- wherein the computer-readable memory is programmed with instructions that cause the processor to cooperate with the communication device to automatically initiate a first communication session at a prescribed connection time,
- wherein during the first communication session at least one query is received from a remote computer;
- prompt the patient with the at least one query via the output device;
- receive at least one response to the at least one query via the input device; and
- transmit the at least one response and the at least one physiological health indicator to the remote computer via the communication device.

220. (New) The medical device of claim 219, wherein the computer-readable memory stores programs that cause the processor to:

receive from the remote computer at least one question to be used for prompting the patient after the first communication session has been terminated; and

transmit to the remote computer at least one response entered by the patient prior to initiation of the first communication session.

221. (New) The medical device of claim 219, wherein the computer-readable memory further stores programs that cause the processor to:

prompt the patient with at least one query after the first communication session has been terminated;

measure at least one physiological health indicator of the patient;

collect at least one answer to the at least one question; and

initiate a second communication session with the remote computer, during which the processor transmits to the remote computer the at least one physiological health indicator and the at least one question.

222. (New) The medical device of claim 221, wherein the second communication session is initiated by the patient.